IN THE CLAIMS

(Currently amended) A method of fabricating a semiconductor device comprising:
providing a substrate having at least one semiconductor layer;
forming a conductive layer over the substrate;
vapor priming a first silicon-containing material over [[the]] a gate oxide;
vapor priming a second silicon-containing material over the first silicon-containing
material;

forming a silicon-containing dielectric layer having a thickness of about 35Å by processing the first silicon-containing material and the second silicon-containing material with a reactive agent selected to react with silicon atoms of the first silicon-containing material and the second silicon-containing material; and

forming a gate electrode over the silicon-containing dielectric layer.

- 2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising: doping the gate electrode with phosphor.
- 3. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising: doping the gate electrode with boron.
- 4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein processing the silicon-containing material in a reactive ambient comprises rapid thermally nitridizing the silicon-containing material in an NH₃ ambient at a processing temperature of 850°C.